

IN THE CLAIMS: A clean copy of the amended claims is attached as Exhibit B.

Please delete Claim 1

Please amend Claim 2 as follows:

2. (Amended) A [restraining gasket as in Claim 1,] pipe joint comprising a first pipe portion, a second pipe portion, a compression gland, and a restraining gasket between the first pipe portion and the second pipe portion, said gasket further comprising:
- a) a compressible body having a spigot-facing surface, a recess seat-facing surface, and a gland-facing surface; and
 - b) a locking member, said member having a tooth and a back portion at least partially embedded within the compressible body, wherein at least a portion of the tooth is positioned to engage the male pipe portion, wherein said locking member is adapted to pivot in response to a force tending to separate the first pipe portion from the second pipe portion, and wherein said locking member is adapted to resist movement between said first pipe portion and said compression gland in the event of such [pressures] force.

Please amend Claim 3 as follows:

3. (Amended) A [restraining gasket as in Claim 1,] pipe joint comprising a first pipe portion, a second pipe portion, and a restraining gasket, said gasket further comprising:
- a) a compressible body having a spigot-facing surface, a recess seat-facing surface, and a gland-facing surface; and
 - b) a locking member, said member having a tooth and a back portion at least partially embedded within the compressible body, wherein at least a portion of the tooth is positioned to engage the male pipe portion,
- wherein [upon compression of a gland against said gland-facing surface] said locking member is [urged into] adapted to adopt a secured relationship with the first pipe portion upon compression of a gland against said gland-facing surface and wherein further said locking member is adapted to non-compressibly resist movement of said first pipe portion relative to said gland by transferring a portion of [such pressures] an extractive force to said gland and a second portion of such [pressures] force to the second pipe portion.

Please amend Claim 4 as follows:

4. (Amended) A [restraining gasket] pipe joint as in Claim [1] 2, wherein said [said locking member having a] back portion is disposed in proximity to said gland-facing surface and to said second pipe portion.

Please amend Claim 5 as follows:

5. (Amended) A [restraining gasket] pipe joint as in claim 4, wherein said back portion is adapted to interpose between a lip of said gland and the second pipe portion.

Please amend Claim 6 as follows:

6. (Amended) A [restraining gasket] pipe joint as in Claim [1] 2, [said] wherein said locking member has [having] a facing elbow disposed in proximity to said gland-facing surface.

Please amend Claim 7 as follows:

7. (Amended) A [restraining gasket] pipe joint as in Claim [1] 2, wherein said locking [members have] member has a facing elbow, and an upper protrusion; said facing elbow being disposed in proximity to said gland-facing surface, and said upper protrusion being disposed in proximity to said recess seat facing surface.

Please amend Claim 8 as follows:

8. (Amended) A [restraining gasket] pipe joint as in Claim 7, wherein said facing elbow and said upper protrusion are points on a curve.

Please amend Claim 9 as follows:

9. (Amended) A [restraining gasket] pipe joint as in Claim 7, wherein said facing elbow is adapted to resistively contact said compression gland.

Please amend Claim 10 as follows:

10. (Amended) A [restraining gasket] pipe joint as in Claim 9, wherein said upper protrusion is adapted to resistively contact said second [assembled] pipe portion.

Please amend Claim 11 as follows:

11. (Amended) A [restraining gasket] pipe joint as in Claim [1] 2, further comprising a plurality of density regions, wherein said regions are adapted to influence the movement of said locking member[s].

Please amend Claim 12 as follows:

12. (Amended) A [restraining gasket] pipe joint as in Claim [1] 2, wherein said compressible body comprises a ring mutably severed along its circumference.

Please amend Claim 13 as follows:

13. (Amended) A [restraining gasket] pipe joint for securing the ends of intersected assembled pipe portions, said gasket comprising a compressible body adapted to encircle a spigot end of a first pipe length and adapted to fit within a bell end of a second pipe length; said gasket having a spigot-facing surface, a gland-facing surface, and a recess seat surface; said compressible body having embedded therein a locking member, said locking member having a toothed edge, a gland-meeting area, and a seat-meeting area; said toothed edge disposed in proximity to said spigot facing surface; said gland-facing area disposed in proximity to said gland-facing surface, and said recess-seat [-] meeting area disposed in proximity to said recess seat surface.

Please amend Claim 14 as follows:

14. (Amended) A [restraining gasket] pipe joint as in Claim 12, wherein said gland-meeting area comprises a tooth.

Please amend Claim 15 as follows:

15. (Amended) A [restraining gasket] pipe joint as in Claim 13, wherein said recess-seat [-] meeting area comprises a tooth.

Please amend Claim 16 as follows:

16. (Amended) A method for preventing the disengagement of pipe lengths comprising: